HEALTH DEPARTMENT

~ 2005 REPORT ~

In 2005, the Milford Health Department received normal complaints. As stated in my 2004 report, mold is still frequently a health concern.

On many occasions I found the reported mold problems could be corrected by cleaning and better ventilation of the affected areas. The problems mainly occurred where water leakage was caused by roofing or siding problems.



Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile Virus have been of great concern in 2005 and I expect they will be in 2006 as well. I have had inquiries regarding the possibility of spraying and I am presently looking for input from the State and Federal officials as to how to proceed. Spraying is a very large and costly endeavor and there is a question as to how effective it may be when you consider the amount of area in Milford that would need to be considered for treatment.

The Avian flu has been in the news in 2005. There is a fear that a strain of avian flu will infect the human population. I have been meeting with fellow health officials to develop action plans so we will be prepared should a pandemic occur here in the Northeast. These planning meetings are helpful in seeing what other groups are doing to plan for a pandemic, should one ever take place.

The Environmental Protection Agency has required many towns in southern New Hampshire to develop a storm water management plan and many communities are struggling to develop such a plan. One important part of such a plan is the enforcement process and at this time, the only available enforcement of storm water management would be under the Health Ordinance, by State law. Presently our draft plan is under development and should be completed by May of 2006.

In closing, I would like to thank the residents of Milford for their understanding and cooperation and I hope that 2006 will be a healthy year for you and your family.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Lynch, Health Officer